

The Hartford News

April 29 – May 5, 2021



“This is the land of the free”

A last stand against mandated vaccines for Connecticut’s children

BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

It’s all over, including the shouting—at least for now. Nearly 12 hours after the first of what quickly became thousands of people arrived at the State Capitol to protest prior to the State Senate vote on a decades-old religious exemption that had allowed parents to send their children who hadn’t had the mandated childhood vaccines to the state’s public and private schools, it was struck down, 22-14. Passage of the new bill awaits only Governor Lamont’s signature. It will mark the end of a lengthy and passionate battle by several thousand families—mostly suburban and mostly white—whose rallying chant had been “Our child, our choice!”



As the anti-vaccine contingent came off the highway exit ramp and onto Capitol Avenue, sign-holding proponents of the exemption exhorted drivers beeping their horns and pedestrians on the sidewalks with cries of “This is the Constitution state, not the Communist state!”, “This is the land of the free!”, “One of the side effects is death!”, and “Say a prayer—it’s unconstitutional!” The crowd thronging the Capitol grounds increased steadily throughout the day. They sat on blankets and folding chairs. Some mingled restlessly or stood by and watched as their young children played on the lawn. On a giant screen, supporters gave speeches that stirred the attendees to chant “Kill the bill!” and “USA! USA!” The atmosphere was upbeat and mimicked a music festival/campaign rally, including some costumed people

Continued on page 6



Street Corner Named After Community Activist

The corner of Charter Oak Avenue and Nepaquaush Street in Hartford’s Sheldon/Charter Oak neighborhood is now “Muhammad Ansari’s Way” after an official ceremony on Saturday, April 24. Abdul-Shahid “Muhammad” Ansari, a longtime Hartford activist and community leader passed away last year. His daughter, Rafia Ansari, is shown speaking at the event. A native of Georgia and a U.S. Air Force veteran, Ansari came to Hartford in 1944. Over the years, he served President of the Greater Hartford NAACP, President of the African American Alliance and chair of the Hartford Civilian Police Review Board. For many years he was Executive Director of the Open Hearth, the oldest continually operating housing program for men on the East Coast. The new street sign is located across the street from the facility. (Hart photo)

Block Parties Saturdays this Month

The City of Hartford Department of Families, Children, Youth and Recreation will host Block Parties on four Saturdays this month.

- Saturday, May 1: Willie Ware Center, 687 Windsor St.; 12-2 pm
- Saturday, May 8: Goodwin Park Pond House, (located off Hubbard Road);

- Saturday, May 15: Keney Park Playground, 383 Edgewood St.;
- Saturday, May 22: Grand Re-Opening! of Metzner Rec. Center & Early Learning Center, 680 Franklin Ave.

The events, which will feature arts & crafts, games, inflatables, raffles, food, community partners and giveaways.

Hartford...Once Upon a Time



City youngsters crowd into and around the Pope Park pool in this undated photo. Pope Park is named after Hartford bicycle manufacturer Albert Pope, whose factory was located close by. The park was built on farmland that was owned by George Bartholomew. Pope originally purchased the land to create a housing subdivision but soon changed his mind created a park for his workers and their families (Photo courtesy of the Hartford History Center, Hartford Public Library)

NEWS BRIEFS

Maple Ave. Clean-up Saturday

The Maple Avenue Revitalization Group (MARG) will hold a clean-up of the Barry Square Neighborhood this Saturday, May 1. Volunteers are asked to gather at the South End Wellness Senior Center, 830 Maple Avenue, Hartford, at 9 am. Gloves, bags and trash pickers will be provided as well as refreshments. For more information, call Hyacinth Yennie at 860-296-5543.

No-Appointment Vaccine Clinic at Parker Center

The Trinity Health Of New England clinic at Parker Memorial Community Center, 2621 Main Street, is providing free vaccines with no appointment necessary, Monday – Friday from 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM until further notice. Go any time with friends and family and get vaccinated. If you need a ride, call Hartford 3-1-1.

South End Historic Tour May 1

A Walking Tour: Hartford’s Historic South End will be held on Saturday, May 1 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. The tour will explore several historic sites in the Coltsville and the Charter Oak neighborhoods, including the Colt Factory and its worker houses, the Church of the Good Shepherd and Parish House, the Capewell Nail Factory, and the Polish National Home. Along the way, tour guides will discuss the changes industry and immigration had on these neighborhoods in Hartford Suggested \$5 donation. Participants should meet at the east end of the Butler-McCook Garden, also accessible through the Amos Bull House entrance at 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford. Registration required at <https://ctl-historic-south-end-walk.eventbrite.com>.

Riverfront Youth Rowing Clinic

Riverfront Recapture is offering two rowing clinics for youth this summer, June 28 - July 1 and July 26 - 29. If your child is new to rowing, our beginner clinics are a great way to try the sport and prepare for fall tryouts. If your child is already rowing, our intermediate clinics will improve their tech-

Continued on page 7



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Los Amigos Colt Park Clean-up

On Saturday, April 24, members of the Los Amigos Softball League held a clean-up of Colt Park in anticipation of the league’s opening day on Sunday. Unfortunately, due to heavy rain, the league’s opening day was postponed to this Sunday, May 2, at 2 pm in Colt Park. There will also be a Mobile Vaccination Unit at the park from 11 am -5 pm on Sunday. The Friends of Colt Park and Coltsville National Park Service rangers also assisted in last Saturday’s claeen-up. (Hart photo)

Short Cut: Robbin’ the ‘hood?
In a neat twist, the mayor proposes stealing from the poor and giving to the rich

COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

The following agenda item is from the “Council’s Actions” email that arrived after their Monday, April 26th meeting:

24. MAYOR BRONIN, with accompanying resolution that would authorize the City to utilize \$5 million, which had been set aside in committed fund balance for addressing economic uncertainty, to the Capital Region Development Authority for the purposes of providing loans that will allow us to return city owned property back on the tax rolls.

Referred to the Operations, Management, Budget and Government Accountability Committee

Now let me get this straight. The city had set aside \$5 million of the budget to address “economic uncertainty”. That would mean in Hartford, right? CRDA is a State—not City—authority that is well-known for advancing millions in loans to uber-wealthy develop-

ers; think Shelbourne, RMS, etc. They in turn construct or renovate/remodel existing Hartford buildings which then become housing that a majority of city residents cannot afford to live in. And those developers in turn often get some real nice tax abatements and sometimes even lowball property assessments from the city. About 40% of Hartford residents live at or below the poverty line. Mayor Bronin, how much economic uncertainty have you or those developers actually experienced? Who’s in charge of our economic development? I thought it was I. Charles Mathews & company, but instead it seems like it’s CRDA, whose board you sit on. Is this the city of Hartford or a branch of Go Fund Me? City Council, if you vote for this scurvy scheme that won’t do a damn thing for the residents (except in a pipe dream), you should resign your seats. You can’t make this stuff up.



Access Health Offering Financial Help for Monthly Payments

Access Health CT (AHCT) has announced the opening of a Special Enrollment Period from May 1 until August 15, 2021, where new and existing customers enrolling through the Marketplace will be able to take advantage of newly available financial help to lower their monthly payments (premiums).

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) signed into law on March 11 by President Biden, will make health insurance coverage more affordable and accessible for many Connecticut residents during the current health crisis, by virtually eliminating or vastly reducing monthly payments (premiums) for many people with low and moder-

ate incomes who enroll through Access Health CT; and providing new financial help for people with somewhat higher incomes who can face high premiums.

How much people will save depends on their household’s annual income.

The average savings per household will be \$116.05 per month, or \$1,392.57 per year.

People with annual income over 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$51,040 for one person), will be newly eligible financial help through Access Health CT and will see an average monthly savings of over \$500 or \$6,200 a year.

People with annual incomes up to 150% of the Federal Poverty Level

(\$19,140 for one person) can now buy silver plans for nearly \$0 monthly premium with a \$0 deductible (the amount you pay for covered health care services before your insurance plan starts to pay) and lower copay and coinsurance amounts.

Individual taxpayers who receive Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits at any time in 2021, will be automatically considered to have an annual income at 133% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$12,880) and will be eligible for a nearly \$0 premium benchmark silver plan with no deductibles for medical or prescription drug coverage, and

Continued on page 6



Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

Crush the Car Tax

The car tax on individual owners causes all kinds of trouble and inconvenience.

First, people cheat (some even glory in it) by using fake addresses in Rocky Hill, Windsor or even Florida. That can mean they avoid many other obligations of residents, such as registering to vote, jury duty, etc. We’ve been told of fake Florida folks who, to avoid being caught, send all their mail to that state and have a neighbor re-send it to the real residence – right here in River City.

Another real problem with this messy, unfair tax is that it keeps people from moving into, or going to school in cities like Hartford. We have a friend who saved enough money from the reduced taxes and car insurance rates (another discriminatory cost) they got from denying they lived in Hartford that they could afford to move to a better housing unit outside of the city.

Assessing the value of private autos and collecting the tax revenue is almost an impossible task for a municipality to do fairly. Values (based on the Blue Book) go up and down depending on the economy. Old people, sick people, new arrivals and those who must overcome language barriers often make mistakes, and when they go to re-register their cars and the taxes they owe pops up on the DMV computer, it’s not a pretty situation.

Now the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, which is pretty much dominated by representatives from the suburbs, is taking a knee jerk reaction to a proposal to eliminate the car tax by saying some municipalities would see a 6% loss in revenue. Well, maybe not. We could still charge commercial vehicles, such as Amazon delivery vehicles, UPS, rental cars and trucks. They use town and city roads, they inconvenience traffic and can absorb the tax by charging higher rates.

And, lets be honest. Any town or city could adjust its costs and reserve about 1% a year over five years, greatly reducing any real effect on homeowners and businesses in terms of taxes.

Conservatives and liberals could both agree on ridding us of this destructive tax. For conservatives, it would reduce the size and scope of government. For liberals, it would ease the economic burden of the poor, the elderly, the unemployed and others.

So, lets all get behind this. Call the governor’s office at 860-566-4840 or your state senator and/or state representative. Write letters, send emails, talk one-on-one with our elected officials if you get the chance. In one fell swoop, eliminating the car tax could bring economic relief to a very large segment of our population.

A New Ordinance Proposed to Protect the Public and Police

COMMENTARY BY BILL KATZ

Fifteen years ago, a Black female police officer in Buffalo pulled a white cop off a Black suspect who he had handcuffed and locked in a chokehold. Officer Cariol Home was reprimanded for this action and offered four days of suspension to settle the case and she refused. She was subsequently fired short of her 20 years on the force which would have given her a pension. She lost her case in Superior Court but recently, the New York State Supreme Court recognized her petition and gave her the almost 15 years of back pension pay.

Now the city of Buffalo has enacted an ordinance called “Cariol’s Law,” which mandates that officers must intervene when a fellow officer poses an imminent threat to citizens.

Now the city of Buffalo has enacted an ordinance called “Cariol’s Law,” which mandates that officers must intervene when a fellow officer poses an imminent threat to citizens. And those officers who neglect to intervene can be held accountable. The ordinance protects any officers who do intervene. It includes accountability for falsifying reports. And it impacts policy regarding termination and department funding.

This ordinance is a win/win for citizens and for police officers who want to do the right thing but who are constrained by tradition and punishment that likely would befall an officer for stopping aggressive, life threatening behavior. Hartford city council and mayor should act on a similar ordinance and do it quickly before Hartford experiences what has occurred in numerous locales around the country. We did recently have an incident when a Sergeant punched a handcuffed woman in the face in police lockup. That was totally unwarranted no matter what preceded the assault.

We don’t need to wait impatiently for federally enacted legislation from a fractured Congress laden with stagnant Republican Know Nothings. Policing is local. And this ordinance is a no brainer. Read: Cariolslaw.com

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Celebrating a Century!

On Wednesday, April 21, Hattie M. Henry of Hartford celebrated her 100th birthday in a special way at the North End Senior Center on Coventry Street, Hartford. Hattie sat on a throne outside the center while friends and family drove by to offer their birthday greetings. Hattie was born on April 21, 1921 in Edgefield, South Carolina. She moved to Washington D.C. at an early age and worked as a nursing assistant at the Malcolm Grow U.S.A.F. Medical Center. While in Washington she participated in many community activities, including the movement to desegregate schools and the famous Martin Luther King, Jr. rally in the nation’s capital in 1963. She later married and moved to Hartford where she worked as a respiratory technician at the Newington Veterans Administration Medical Center. She is a longtime member of St. Monica’s Episcopal Church and the Blue Hills Civic Association. (Hart photo)



A Little One After The Big One

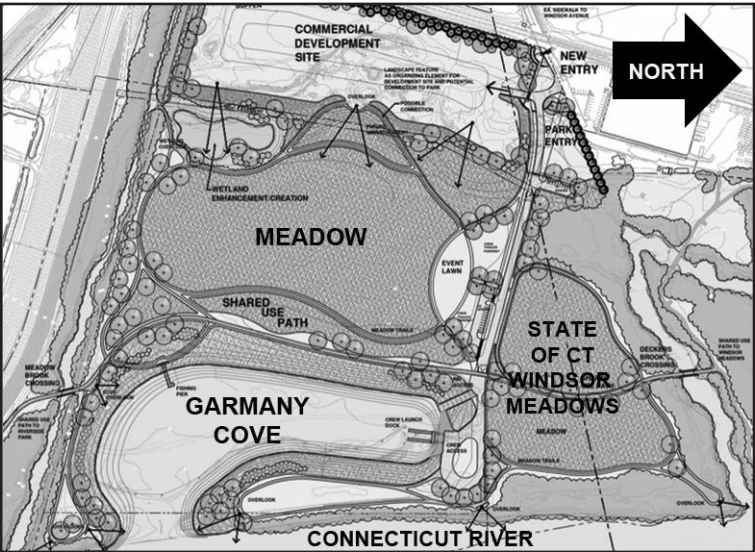
Five-year-old Aliyah Ware tries her luck at the annual Keney Park Family Fun Fishing Derby last Thursday, April 22. The event was sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the City of Hartford Department of Families, Children, Youth and Recreation, Hartford Fire Cadets and Hartford Police Department. (Hart photo)

Announcing...
The Joe Marfuggi Riverwalk!

BY DONNA SWARR



Deborah Baker (third from left), Director of Development at Riverfront Recapture, discusses plans for the new Joe Marfuggi Riverwalk, which will be built along the river on the Hartford/Windsor town line. (Hart photo)



by Robinson and Cole. The 2.5-mile trail extension is to provide greater access to the river for recreational purposes as well as biking as a form of transportation. The area between the boathouse and Windsor will be called Riverfront North. The proposal includes grading and paving the existing dike maintenance road to be used as a walkway and maintenance road, building a bridge over Meadow Brook, as well as adding a new walkway and bridge over Decker’s Brook. There are many recreational opportunities, including additional fishing areas and potentially a paddle park in the cove. The plan also includes a new 1,400-foot sidewalk along Meadow St. that will connect the Riverside trail to Keney Park. They expect construction to start in 2022.

A resolution went before the Hartford City Council on Monday, April 26th to honor and memorialize Joe Marfuggi’s outstanding contribution to Hartford, the Riverfront Parks and Riverfront Recapture, and it was heartily approved. On Tuesday, April 27th, a ceremony was held to celebrate the dedication and announce the plans for the new Riverwalk. Congressman Larson, the mayors of Hartford and Windsor, City Councilors, State Representatives, and Joe’s widow Sherri Brown Marfuggi, attended the event. Windsor mayor Don Trinks said “Joe would have been proud of this of this day”. Connecting people to the river had been his goal. In 2019 Riverfront Recapture purchased 60 acres of land to expand and connect the existing Hartford Riverwalk to the Windsor Riverwalk located in the Windsor Meadow State Park. This was made possible via a \$2.6 million Federal Highway Administration Transportation Alternative Program (FHWA TAP) grant from the Capitol Region Council of Governments, donations from the Richard P. Garmany Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, The William and Alice Mortensen Foundation, and The Mowell Family Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving plus generous legal support from Robinson + Cole. The City of Hartford will provide \$632,000. This January, the town of Windsor received a \$500,000 grant from the state Department of Transportation for 850 feet of trail to connect the Windsor Riverwalk to Riverside Park’s trail. The Town of Windsor is hoping to secure additional funding and begin construction by the end of 2021 for Windsor’s trail. Many people have helped this project along, including pro-bono work provided

Continued on page 6

Covid Vaccinations Given At Dwight Library

Over 500 Hartford residents were vaccinated during a clinic held at Dwight Library April 7-9. When Liz Matias, Dwight Library manager, arrived shortly before 8:30 am on Thursday, the second day of the clinic, people were already at the door waiting for the 10 am start time. “There was a line, a long line,” Matias said. “The word spread like wildfire.” Matias said that vaccination appointments can be a lot harder for Dwight neighborhood residents to obtain. There are often issues with internet connectivity, language difficulties, and limited access to transportation. “There are a lot of barriers,” she said. Open clinics like the one held at Dwight make it easy for the most vulnerable to have ready access to the vaccine. People who showed up walked into a smoothly running machine. Members of National Guard helped people fill out registration paperwork outside. Those desiring vaccination checked in with a member of the Griffin Health team, and then moved into a socially distanced



Liz Matias, Dwight Library Manager at the vaccine clinic earlier this month. (HPL photo)

waiting area before their shot. Once they had their vaccination, there was a sunny spot reserved by the library’s large windows for their observation period. Matias and her team had thought through the process carefully. “Everything is set up so it flows,” she said. Matias, who speaks Spanish, acted as an interpreter for many of the people who came in for their shots. She moved around the room, guiding people to their next step in the process, making sure that people were comfortable and had what they needed. An elderly gentleman who was a bit unsteady on his feet stood up. Matias walked over: “Can I take your other arm?” she said, leading the man to the door. He went off into a bright day, fully vaccinated courtesy of HPL and Griffin Health. “It’s just such a great opportunity for the community to have this available to them,” said Matias. By Steve Scarpa, manager of communications and public relations

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News & Views



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ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

From the
Executive Director
BY DAVID MACDONALD

AHNA Strategic Planning Task Forces begin their work

AHNA's Strategic Planning Task Forces are forming and beginning their work to develop plans and priorities to guide the revitalization of Asylum Hill for the next ten (10) years. AHNA has recent survey data to guide our work, thanks to the Hartford's neighborhood survey of more than 300 members of the Asylum Hill community. This survey identified more employment opportunities as the top issue affecting Asylum Hill residents. Given the great importance of addressing this need, the AHNA Board of Directors created two task forces to look at the issues of employment and economic development.

AHNA's Economic Development Task Force is chaired

by AHNA Director Wayne Benjamin. The Task Force has met once and reviewed the suggested areas for development. The Task Force is focusing on strengthening Farmington Avenue by ensuring the streetscape project is completed, supporting the Farmington Avenue Alliance, focus on the block starting at the corner of Farmington and Laurel St. including the newly historic property of the Comet Diner and 285 South Marshall Street, leverage neighborhood arts and culture to spur economic activity, and work with the Business Improvement District to enhance, cleaning, security and marketing for the Avenue. Additional areas of focus include supporting small busi-

nesses, transportation issues to make improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists, and address blight, brownfields and other re-development opportunities, especially 85 Sigourney Street (the old Hastings Hotel/Aetna Training center). Their next meeting is scheduled for May 13th at 5:30pm. If you'd like to participate please email me at exdir@asylumhill.org to be connect-

ed.

The Workforce Development Task Force, chaired by AHNA Director and Urban League Workforce manager Yvonne Matthews has met once and reviewed ideas on how to help Asylum Hill residents gain access to more and better employment opportunities. They met with representatives from the United Way about expanding the Working Cities model into Asylum Hill and the creation of an Asylum Hill Employment Resource Navigator to connect residents to employment. Other ideas include creating a smartphone app for asylum hill residents looking for employment or other employment services and how AHNA can connect residents to other employment services. They also plan to collaborate with Capital Workforce Partners to identify more resources for Asylum Hill residents. The Task Force is looking for more volunteers so if you're interested in helping increase employment opportunities for Asylum Hill residents, please email me at exdir@asylumhill.org to join the Workforce Development Task Force. The Task Force meets every Monday at 1pm.

Other Task Forces looking for volunteers includes the Public Safety, Arts and Culture, Environment and Green Initiatives, Housing, Historic Preservation and Blight Remediation, Human Services, and Youth Enrichment/Education. Please email me at exdir@asylumhill.org to join any of the Task Forces. Please join now if you're interested, the Task Forces will complete their work by June.

EXPLORING ASYLUM HILL NINA Successes

While the COVID pandemic hasn't made anyone's life any easier, it hasn't stopped NINA from continuing their mandate to both restore historic homes and provide quality homeownership opportunities in Asylum Hill. First up, the new construction shown in the photo. In the foreground are 80-82 Hawthorn St which are the second half of the project that is taking a long vacant parking lot and turning it into homes for four families. The homes in the background are 86-88 Hawthorn that were recently completed and sold earlier this year.



Before these, there were the homes on Sigourney St, 115 and 117 that were both purchased in 2020 despite the pandemic.

Their next project, 29 Ashley St, began about a year ago when fire broke out in the 3rd floor apartment. After a few early missteps where the owner and insurance company were planning to demolish the home, AHNA was able to engage the Historic Preservation Commission and the City to withhold the demolition permit, allowing time for NINA to put together a plan to save the home.

The recent closing on the property will make this the 20th historic property to be saved from demolition and converted into an owner occupied home. More photos are available at: bit.ly/29ashleyB4



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Attn: Letters to the Editor

AH THEN & NOW Tree 156



The photo above is from The Hartford History Center at the Hartford Public Library. It is one of the glass plate negatives contained in the Hartford City Parks Collection when they were surveying trees a century ago, thus tree 156. What is especially interesting are the homes east of the apartments. There appear to be five of them and the 1920 Sanborn map confirms this. More photos of these homes that have been used for offices for decades can be found at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/fFrFrqB8jrbAc7Y7>. Perhaps a better use for these historic properties can be found sometime soon, before they are lost.



Marshall –Farmington Mural Party

When the mural on the wall of the Super Spin Laundromat at Marshall and Farmington was being planned last fall, some of the grant money was set aside for a celebration. It’s always good to celebrate success, and especially when the rest of the shopping center was painted as well. So on a beautiful Sunday afternoon a few weeks ago the promised party took place. Nearly a hundred neighbors gathered to enjoy the music, dancers and food.

It was very much an Asylum Hill affair, as the music, the singers and the dancers were all from the neighborhood and the Pizza couldn’t have been more local, as it came from A-1 Pizza at the other end of the block.

The Program started with a welcome from Lynn Johnson who served as the MC for the afternoon and first up to share a few words was Jackie McKinney the chair of AHNA. Three vocalists provided entertainment, first Sal Pinna sang You’ll Never Walk Alone accompanied by recorded guitar music. He was followed by



Akeva Koulla who sang The Rose with recorded piano accompaniment. The final song was Give More Love a spirited piece sung by Amy Ansah.

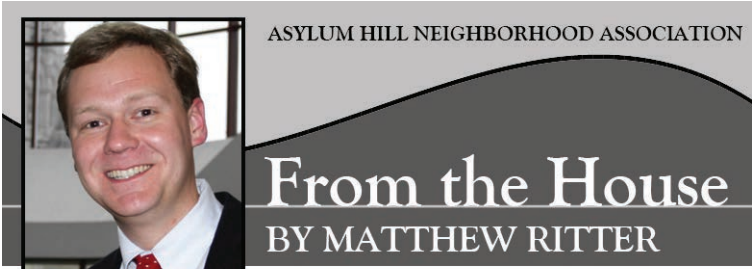
Next Louisa shared a few words about the neighborhood and the neighbors in it, before the dancers and drummers known as “Friendz World Music” performed first and then invited the audience to join in. And they did.

Finally, when everyone had worked up a good appetite, the pizza and soft drinks were brought



out and shared with everyone present. There was plenty for all and even a little for later. All in all, it was a great time and hopefully the first in a series to come.

For more photos go to http://bit.ly/mural_party



Making Batterson Park a Destination for Residents Again

Batterson Park, the long-shuttered Hartford-owned former recreation area straddling Farmington and New Britain, is a lost gem and I have been working with Council Members and advocates to restore it into the regional attraction it once was – a recreational destination for Hartford and the region. The waterfront park has incredible potential, and the COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the need for more outdoor spaces that area families and residents can enjoy. I have proposed a multi-million dollar investment to restore the park back into a regional recreational asset and believe this can be accomplished within a couple of years.

Closed to the public since 2015, Batterson's natural assets and infrastructure have deteriorated from a lack of use and maintenance over the years. It has a storied history though as a popular summer destination for thousands of day visitors back in the 1950s through the early 1980s, who enjoyed the large lake, picnicking and recreational amenities, which included food concessions, a pavilion, and basketball courts.

Located about 10 miles from Hartford's center, Batterson Park spans over 500 acres with about 200 acres of parkland including the 165-acre lake. The lake was originally used as a drinking water reservoir before the Hartford Water Department donated the tract to the Parks Department in 1928. The park was named after Hartford's mayor at the time Walter Batterson.

A key to successfully moving this massive project forward is the positive working relationship between the three municipalities – Hartford, Farmington and New Britain. Everyone is on board and this is a great example of regional cooperation and towns advocating together for a common goal.



“Getting vaccinated protects you, your family, and your community.”

Dr. Reginald J. Eadie,
President and CEO
Trinity Health Of New England



ct.gov/covidvaccine

GET THE
FACTS
ON THE
VAX

Antti-Vaccine Protest

Continued from page 1

working the crowd. Counter-protestors had been expected but they were not visibly present.

Now that their efforts have come to naught, what’s next? Those interviewed at the rally before the vote were eager to talk to the media, and made it clear that if the religious exemption didn’t stand, they would not be having their children vaccinated in order to keep them in the state’s public schools, but would be seeking alternate methods of education for them. “Homeschooling and possibly moving out of

Connecticut”, said one Naugatuck woman, while her companion from Ansonia was considering moving to Florida. Holly and Frankie of Rochester, New York were two of a surprising number of protestors who’d traveled to Hartford from other states to show their support, still stinging from their state’s ending of the exemption in 2019. A Prospect woman declared fervently “They’re trying to sell out our kids to Big Pharma”. A couple from Greenwich with their two small children were approached as they walked to the rally and said they would be homeschooling, as did most of those interviewed.

Many in attendance had come armed with their own research—facts and figures— “proving” that the childhood vaccines are dangerous, and were eager to share their data. Lori of Killingworth said that during the first six months of the pandemic, March-August 2020, deaths from SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) had been down by 30%, the reason being that pediatricians had stopped in-person visits and the vaccinations of babies at age two and four months had been put on hold. She also accused Governor Lamont of copycatting the actions of Cuomo, New York’s governor. Others pointed the finger at the CT legislature, and accused the representatives and senators of not being responsive to their concerns. “I think they’re all told by the powers-that-be what to do, think, and talk about in order to get dona-

tions to their campaigns”, said Steve from Killingly. And Victoria, a Milford resident made it more personal: “I am not anti-vaccine, but any Democrats who want to get re-elected or be on a committee are afraid to cross (Speaker of the House) Matt Ritter.” One question that nearly all queried refused to answer was “What religion do you practice that is against vaccines?”. One young woman did respond “Christian” When pressed as to what denomination of Christianity she followed, she replied “We follow the Bible.” Vaccines are mentioned in the Bible? She just smiled.

Two latecomers to the rally were Black Hartford residents, Chelsea and her 12-year-old daughter Trezhur, who is fully vaccinated. When asked why they had come to the rally, Chelsea said “I am pro-vaccine, but against medical mandates.”

Arch Street Tavern Re-opens

The Arch Street Tavern, 85 Arch Street in Downtown Hartford has re-opened after being closed for over a year due to the pandemic.

To celebrate its re-opening, “The Arch” has a full line-up of live music for the month of May. Upcoming dates include:
May1: Patio Stage Kickoff Party
May 1: Among the Acres
May 2: Bluegrass with Mantis
May 5: Booyah plays Talking Heads



May 7: SixFoxWhiskey
May 8: Tribute to Garcia & Grisman
May 8: One Time Weekend
May 9: Mother’s Day Patio Party
May 12: Booyah James Brown Funky Party
May 14: No Mind

Access Health

Continued from page 2

very low copay and coinsurance amounts.

Over half of current households in a qualified health plan will now pay under \$16/month for their health insurance.

“The American Rescue Plan will help many people since financial help will be significantly greater for people at virtually every income level,” said Chief Executive Officer at Access Health CT, James Michel. “Many of those who buy their health insurance through Access Health CT will become eligible to receive increased financial help known as premium tax credits to reduce their portion of monthly premiums or may be eligible to receive financial help for the first time.”

Existing AHCT customers will be allowed to keep the same plan with enhanced financial help or change plans during this Special Enrollment Period. However, if a person changes plan, and they have already paid out-of-pocket costs (e.g. plan deductible or maximum out-of-pocket amounts), they may not be able to count any of those payments made from their current plan to the new plan and should speak to their insurance company. Customers will also need to check provider networks and prescription drug formularies for different plans.

In addition, customers will be allowed to select a new plan from

any plan offered through Access Health CT if they prefer. These individuals should know that if they change to a plan with a different insurance company, they will not be able to count those prior out-of-pocket payments toward a new plan, and plan networks and prescription drug formularies can differ from plan to plan. Any questions should be referred directly to their insurance company.

IMPORTANT: Please be aware that changing a plan during this time (May 1- August 15, 2021) will require customers to call the Access Health CT call center to make the change and their insurance company with any plan specific questions. Please expect higher than usual wait times.

For more information on the AHCT Special Enrollment Period and the American Rescue Plan, visit AccessHealthCT.com.

Access Health CT will continue to offer free help:

- Online: AccessHealthCT.com (Live chat: AccessHealthCT.com click “Live Chat” icon)
- Phone: 1-855-805-4325, Mon. – Fri., 8 AM – 5 PM (Saturday May 1, 2021 9 AM – 3 PM)
- With Enrollment Specialists in the community (Hartford location: Community Renewal Team offices at 330 Market Street in Hartford)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Randolph Waden, AKA Randolph Waden, Jr. (21-00312)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 13, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Audrey Waden
c/o Wendi Kowarik
Perkins & Associates
30 Lucy Street
Woodbridge, CT 06525

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Byron L. Brown (21-00415)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 27, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Andrea Brown
C/O Jeffery Rigdon
Berry, Berry Law Group, LLC,
62 Lasalle Road, Suite 212,
West Hartford, CT 06107

Byron W. Brown
c/o Jeffery Rigdon
Berry, Berry Law Group, LLC,
62 Lasalle Road, Suite 212,
West Hartford, CT 06107

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Carlos A Torres-Vargas (21-00320)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 21, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Judith A. Miller,
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Shakira Torres
1630 Main Street, Apt 407,
Hartford, CT 06120

LIQUOR PERMIT Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I,
RUSSELIA GARCIA
472 SALMON BROOK STREET
GRANBY, CT 06035-1402

Have filed an application placarded 04/13/2021 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a GROCERY BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at

130 HILLSIDE AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06106-3020

The business will be owned by:
FORDHAM ROAD MARKET, LLC

Entertainment will consist of:
NONE

Objections must be filed by:
05-25-2021

RUSSELIA E. GARCIA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Trevon Cheatem (21-00384)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 22, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Darlene Charles-Sandy
c/o George A Law
Law Office Of George A. Law
595 Main Street, P.O.BOX 248
Portland, CT 06480

Student Internship at Coltsville

Coltsville National Historical Park is now offering a Student Conservation Association Internship. The intern will assist the Coltsville team with community outreach, digital media, interpretation, events, and building awareness of the new park. One of the tasks includes driving a NPS van. For more information, go to <https://www.nps.gov/colt/getinvolved/sca-recruitment.htm>.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Patrick Evans, AKA Patrick Clayton Evans (21-00401)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 23, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Andrew Evans
435 Glen St.,
New Britain, CT 06051

Andre Evans
131 Benz St.
Ansonia, CT 06401

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Ariel Cruz Jr. (21-00405)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 23, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Elissa Cruz
90 Harwich Street
Hartford, CT 06114

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Edith C. Sullivan, AKA Edith Cecelia Sullivan (21-00419)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 27, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Ingrid Napoletano
c/o PATRICK FILAN
Law Offices Of Patrick J. Filan PC
One Eliot Place
Fairfield, CT 06824

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Glenworth A. Morant, AKA Glenworth Morant (21-00420)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated April 27, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Travis Morant
c/o Kristen Stewart Barbarotta,
Johnson, Dowe Brown, &
Barbarotta, LLC
22 Elm St., Windsor, CT 06095

News Briefs

Continued from page 1

nique before the fall season begins.Registration is now open at <https://riverfront.org/youthclinic/>. Space is limited, so register today.

Gardening Volunteers Sought for May 5 Activity

The West End Civic Association (WECA) is seeking volunteers to help spruce up the planters in front of 494-498 Farmington Avenue on Wednesday, May 5, starting at 6 pm. Volunteers will help weed, remove old soil, add new soil, install a weed cover and plant new flowers. Please wear gloves.

Plant Sales this Weekend

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph, 140 Farmington Avenue, Hartford will hold a plant sale before masses this weekend. The sales will be held in the rear of the church (use entrance off Asylum Avenue) at 4 pm on Saturday, May 1, and 8:30 am and 11 am on Sunday, May 2. In addition, the Bloomfield Lions Club will hold its annual Mother’s Day Plant Sale on Sunday, May

1, outside of Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, from 9 am - 3pm.

Hartford Queer+ Kickball League Starts May 8

The Hartford Varsity Gay League (VGL) Queer+ Kickball League will open its Spring 2021 on Saturday, May 8 from 4-6 pm at Hyland Park, 355 New Britain Avenue, Hartford. Kickball is one of the fastest growing sports in the country.Join the thousands of players who have already joined up with VGL! Design your own team looks! Share a beer before, during, or after the game! Be Silly! Be competitive! Have Fun! To register, go to: Varsitygayleagueconnecticut.leagueapps.com/leagues.

Spring Shred Day May 8

Dispose of any unwanted personal documents safely and securely on Saturday, May 8, from 8 am - 12 pm at 2775 Main Street, Hartford. The event is sponsored by Cencap Federal Credit Union. Please bring your shreddable items in labeled boxes or bags in the trunk of your car. No need to

exit your vehicle! All Cencap staff will follow CDC guidelines for safe social distancing and will wear masks.

Urban League Career Fair May 12

The Urban League of Greater Hartford will host its 21st annual Employment Empowerment Expo and Career Fair from 12-3 pm on Wednesday, May 12. The fair will be held both in-person at the Swift Factory, 10 Love Lane, Hartford; and online at: <https://bit.ly/ulgh2021careerfair>. In addition to companies seeking employees (and possible on-site hiring), the event will include workshops and networking. The career fair is being co-hosted by several community organizations, including the United Way, Sentry Foundation, Hartford Police Department, Hartford Fire Department and the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services.

MARG Meets May 13

The Maple Avenue Revitalization Group (MARG) will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 13, at 6 pm in the lower level of Saint Augustine Church, 10 Campfield

Avenue, Hartford. Representatives from the City of Hartford Housing Department and the Hartford Parking Authority. Those attending the meeting must wear masks and practice social distancing. For more information, call Hyacinth Yennie at 860-296-5543.

Job Fair at Parkville Market May 17

Parkville Market and the Hartford Chamber of Commerce will host a Job Fair at the Market, 1400 Park Street, Hartford, from 11am - 2 pm pm on Monday, May 17.

HELP NHELP!!

North End Little Pantries (NELP) is a food accessibility project in the North End of Hartford. The first Little Pantry was just installed at the corner of Garden and Mather Streets. Another is planned for Sterling Street. Eventually, NELP hopes to cover the whole North End with Little Free Pantries. NELP is a project started for neighbors, by neighbors in collaboration with Nonprofit Accountability Group (NAG) and 4Unity Community Outreach Corp. Each pantry will be accessible 24/7, and depends on contributions from donors.

Donors can leave food (nonperishable or produce only please) in the pantries for neighbors to access, or monetary donations can be sent through cashapp to \$juubejoanna or through paypal to joannaiovino860@gmail.com . Please put "little pantries" in the notes.

Job Training Program Accepting Applications Now

CRT is accepting applications for its YouthBuild job training program. We are seeking young adults 18 – 24 from Hartford and East Hartford who want to earn while you learn! Weekly stipend paid! No High School diploma needed – we’ll help you get your GED! Opportunities available in Construction, CNA or Medical Assistant, and Security Guards. Training will be held at the CRT Youth Artisan and Technology Center, 1443-1445 Main Street, Hartford. For more information, call 860-560-5308, ext. 227.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

The Hartford News
563 Franklin Ave.,
Hartford, CT
Phone: 296-6128

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following week

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted: Insurance

Dynamic Allstate Insurance agency is looking for full-time P&C licensed agents and customer-service personnel and a part-time telemarketer. Please email your resume to aaguh@allstate.com or mail or drop it off at the office, 737 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, VT 06114 or call 860-247-0829.

Electricians Needed

Sunderland Electric is looking for Electricians. Be able to install power supply wiring and conduit, read blueprints, running MC cable, installing transformers, switchgear and panels. Please email resume to ap@sunderlandelectric.com.

Super/ Handyman wanted for North End Buildings

Experienced and reliable super/handyman wanted to oversee multiple 6 family apartment buildings on the North End. Must be experienced with tenant apartment repairs, able to deal with tenants, must have own transportation and reliable phone contact. Immediate. References required. Call (860) 882 3650. Leave message for owner.

Employment

Sewers wanted. Hand or machine, experience needed. Call 860-803-7260.

Music Lessons and More

Instruction in piano, violin, voice & drums as well as math and English. Reasonable fees. Call Dr. Wilson at 860-727-8146.

Plumbing Laborer/Apprentice

FAD Mechanical is seeking someone eager and ready to learn the Plumbing trade working on new construction projects. M-F 7am to 3:30pm. \$15-\$18 based on experience. OSHA card and valid transportation required. Must be a Hartford resident. Email Resume: admin@fadmechanical.com

WELDER/FABRICATOR

Custom Sheet Metal Fabrication, light structural, min 5-10 yrs experience, steady work, good benefits. Call for interview. 860-828-3762

SHEET METAL MECHANICS, APPRENTICES & HELPERS

Steady work, good benefits. Call for interview. 860-828-3762.

Real Estate

Looking to connect with anyone interested inreal estate and helping people. No money needed, no credit needed, good credit but no money, okay, coming into money, okay. Also seeking home improvement workers. Call Chris at 860-525-4554, CT area.

AVON IS CALLING...

For a brochure with thousands of quality products, call Robert at 860-308-5455. We also have hair relaxers and coloring kits for just \$5.00/box.

Part-Time Workers

Handyman and part-time workers wanted. Call 860-803-7260.

Restaurant Help Needed

Nevins Pizza & Bar, 40 John Street, Hartford seeking Bartenders, Kitchen Help and Waitresses. Call 860-461-1669 or 860-461-1095

TO SELL / TO BUY

Cash for Cars & Trucks

We buy junk cars and trucks. We sell and install used parts. Full body work. Used cars and trucks for sale. Corona’s Auto Parts. 608 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford. 860-296-2528.

Dealer Auction Cars

I’ll take you to a dealer-only auction, you pick out the car you like, I’ll buy it and sell it to you with a modest mark-up. These are great cars starting at \$1,000! Auctions every week. Call Sal 860-713-8348.

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Thinking of Getting Married?

Experienced Justice of the Peace available on weekends. Nice settings can be arranged. Modest fee. Call Mike at 860-296-6128.

Free free free free

Wrecked, Junk or Unwanted Vehicle Removal. Fully licensed. Serving Greater Hartford. For prompt, courteous service, call 860-293-2442. Monday-Friday, 8am - 4pm.

LG Pest Control

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REAL ESTATE

RENTERS

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42 Anover Street, Hartford. 3 bedrooms, 2nd floor with deck. Stove & fridge included. Oil heat. Cold flat. Asking \$1,350 with security deposit. Call 860-805-9045.

Apartment for Rent

1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments on Arnold Street and Deerfield Avenue. Appliances included cold flat. Section 8 welcome. Affordable rents. Call 860-752-9060.

Rooms for Rent East Hartford

Nice, clean rooms for rent, 311 Tolland Street, East Hartford. \$160/week, includes all utilities. Call Robert, 860-308-5455.

Rooms for Rent in Vintage Historic Building in Downtown Hartford

Small sleeping rooms. Large windows. Clean, quiet and safe. Located on Asylum Street in Downtown Hartford. On busline. References required. \$150-\$165 weekly. Call 860-985-7999. Text or leave message if no answer.

Apartments for Rent

Large studio & 1-BR. All include heat and hot water, parking, stove & fridge, washer & dryer in basement. Section 8 welcome. No pets, plenty of closet space. Call Imer at 917-681-5785 or Pablo at 860-983-9444.

Room For Rent

Rooms for rent in Hartford’s West End. Utilities included. \$150 weekly. Security deposit. Call 860-888-6655.

For Rent

Spacious 3 Bedroom apartments on the 2nd floor, West End. Cold Flat. 1 month security and 1 month rent. Section 8 welcome. Call 860-888-6655.

22 Evergreen Avenue, Hartford

This is a spacious 2-bedroom unit with hardwood floors. This rents for \$975-\$850 and includes heat and hot water. Close proximity to shopping centers, restaurants and on bus line. On-site laundry and street parking. Section 8 welcomed. No pets. Contract Christine at 860-985-8258.

Church Space for Rent

Existing church building, highly visible and on the bus line. The space provides a sanctuary, pastor’s office, administrative office, plenty of classroom/ministry space, multiple bathrooms and off-street parking. This is an excellent space for a growing congregation. For more details call: Bill, 860-608-6998.

Room for Rent

Furnished room with utilities and kitchen privileges. \$130 weekly. 860 560-8200.

TKB BINGO SUNDAY

1 Vernon Ave, Rockville, behind Rockville Hospital.

Doors open at 11 am. Early Bird Starts at 12:15 pm. Games start at 1 pm. Awesome Food!

You can’t win if you don’t play!

For more information, call Tracy 860-803-9368.

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Efficiency, 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms available. Walking distance to shopping, on bus line, off-street parking. Small pets welcome. Section 8 Welcome. Rates Starting at: Studio- \$615; 1BR- \$700; 2BR- \$800; 3BR- \$900; 4BR-\$1000. Call 860-549-3000.

Apartamentos Para Alquiler:

Apartamentos modernos localizados en Hartford. Studios, Uno, Dos, Tres y Cuatro cuartos dormitorios disponibles. Estacionamiento disponible. ** Aceptamos Section 8**. Rates Starting at: Studio- \$615; 1BR- \$700; 2BR- \$800; 3BR- \$900; 4BR-\$1000. Para mas informacion por favor llamar al 860-549-3000.

El Informativo Latino



Feliz Cumpleaños

Feliz Cumpleaños Sr.Luis ,propietario de La fonda Restaurant, les deseamos mucha felicidad, salud y que todos tus sueños se hagan realidad. Que tu vida sea larga para que durante muchos años tu luz interior ilumine a los que están cerca de ti.De parte de La diferente Radio y Hartford newspapers lo felicitamos.



La Diferente Radio almorzando con los propietarios de La fonda Restaurant Sr. Luis y su familia.

Entradas para juegos de Hartford Yard Goats en Hartford a la venta a partir de hoy lunes

Ya es hora de volver al estadio de béisbol de la capital! Los boletos individuales para juegos de Hartford Yard Goats para el mes de mayo saldrán a la venta el lunes por la mañana. A partir de las 10 a.m., habrá una cantidad limitada de boletos disponibles en línea o por teléfono (860-246-4628). Los funcionarios dicen que no habrá ventas en persona disponibles en este momento. “Estamos muy emocionados de que los fanáticos regresen al estadio, preparar nuestras voces externas y pasar un buen rato”, dijo el lunes el presidente de Yard Goats, Tim Restall.

La apertura en casa de Yard Goats está programada para el martes 11 de mayo a las 7:05 p.m. contra el afiliado de los Boston Red Sox, los Portland Sea Dogs. Los funcionarios anunciaron la semana pasada que solo una semana después del día de apertura, los fanáticos podrán ingresar al parque Dunkin 'Donut Park sin restricciones y al 100% de su capacidad. El anuncio se produce después de que las restricciones al aire libre informadas por el gobernador Ned Lamont para los negocios en Connecticut se levantarán a partir del 1 de mayo y todas las restricciones restantes el 19 de mayo. Sin embargo, como Yard Goats se compromete a seguir las pautas de distancia social, el club de béisbol está presentando dos opciones de asientos en

la mesa.
Restall dio una vista previa del nuevo Patio de Viajeros y Porche de fiesta de Tine Dale del estadio. A los grupos de cuatro se les asignará una mesa alta detrás del ojo del bateador, en un espacio social con televisores y opciones de comida y bebida. Ubicado en el segundo nivel cerca del poste de foul del jardín derecho. También cuentan con mesas privadas para cuatro.
Reglas para que los fanáticos recuerden:

- Todos los invitados de dos (2) años de edad o más y los miembros del personal deben usar cubiertas faciales sobre la nariz y la boca.
- Los espectadores pueden quitarse temporalmente las cubiertas faciales mientras consumen activamente alimentos o bebidas en sus asientos con boleto. Dunkin 'Donuts Park es ahora un lugar sin dinero en efectivo / sin contacto. Se aceptarán tarjetas de regalo y de crédito / débito en la taquilla, la tienda Yard Goats Team Store y las ubicaciones de alimentos y bebidas.
- Se llevará a cabo un mayor saneamiento de las áreas de alto tráfico durante el juego, y se agregaron estaciones adicionales de desinfección de manos en todo el estadio. *By Iris Rodriguez*



Scooters eléctricos llegan a la ciudad de Hartford para ofrecer una opción ecológica y sostenible

Una nueva flota de scooters eléctricos ha llegado a Hartford. Los e-scooters LINK de Superpedestrian fueron lanzados en la ciudad el mismo Día de la Tierra. “Los residentes de

ofrece un descuento del 70 por ciento para cualquier persona que reciba cualquier forma de asistencia pública que incluya Husky Health o el programa de asistencia SNAP del gobierno federal”, dijo



Hartford tienen una opción más conveniente, ecológica, sostenible y divertida para moverse por la ciudad”, dijo el alcalde Luke Bronin.
Los scooters cuestan un dólar para ser desbloqueados y 36 centavos por minuto. La compañía dice que su objetivo es hacerlos lo más accesibles posible para todos. “Nuestro programa de enlace

Paul Mondesire, director de Política y Participación Comunitaria en Superpedestrian. En una ciudad donde no todos tienen transporte confiable, los funcionarios dijeron que era importante encontrar una solución, y los scooters podrían ser una.
“Desafortunadamente, todavía tenemos desiertos de tránsito en la

ciudad de Hartford, donde no es muy fácil usar el transporte público”, dijo Lyle Wray, director ejecutivo del Consejo de Gobiernos de la Región del Capitolio. “El problema de la última milla. Bajarse del autobús, te bajas del tren y no has llegado a tu destino y los monopatinos realmente ayudan a llenar eso “, dijo Sandy Fry, coordinadora de bicicletas y peatones de la ciudad de Hartford.By Iris Rodriguez



Cantante De Los Cantantes

Hector Lavoe, cantante de los cantantes. La diferente Radio 17.10am estudió Héctor Lavoe



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